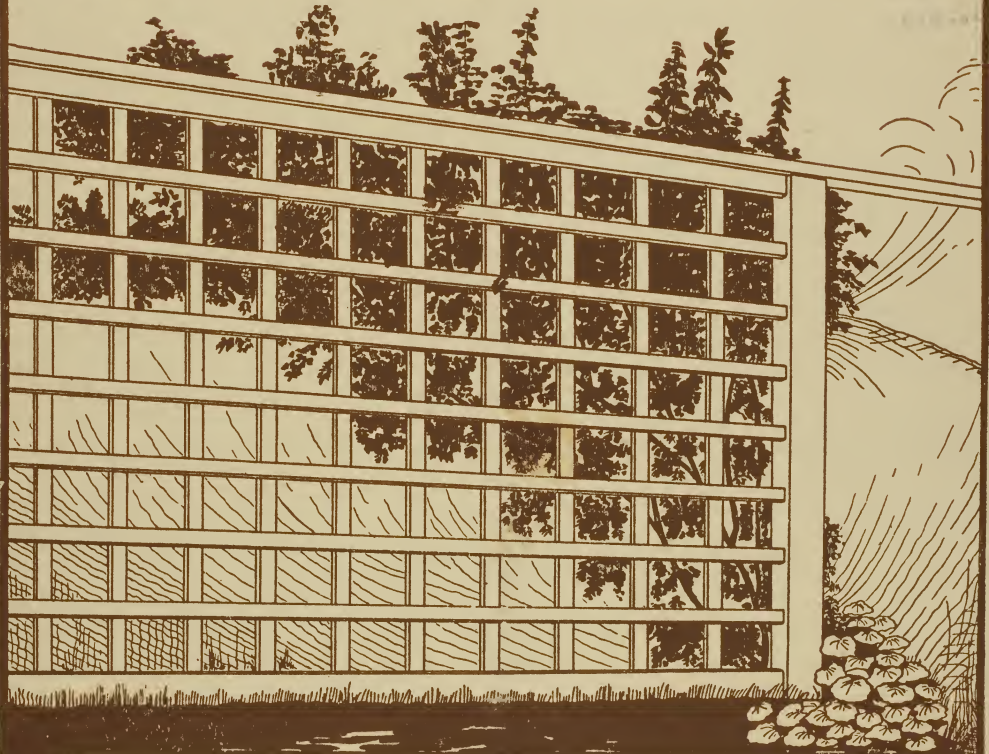


Mrs. Sarah C. Dickinson (M)
1432 Montecito Way-6-21

2384

California Garden



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FEBRUARY, 1921

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The California Garden

*Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association
One Dollar per Year, Ten Cents per Copy*

Vol. 12

POINT LOMA, CALIFORNIA, FEBRUARY, 1921

No. 8

That Obiquitous Tin Can Again

Perennially we are smitten with an attack of conscience about the ever-increasing piles of tin cans on our vacant lots. These attacks—usually acute—are salutary; they would be more so if they were to become chronic. Perhaps then the public appearances of second-hand tin cans would be as rare as the dodo or a five dollar pair of shoes. A tin can is, we admit, a very useful thing,—so is a skunk, but no one wants either next door to him; certainly not by the hundreds.

It is not recorded that even the manufacturers of these very useful articles have ever made any particular claim that they are of value after they have given up their contents; certainly they were never designed nor intended for landscaping purposes, or as a cover crop, as they are frequently used. One of the many claims for distinction which Southern California possesses is its beautiful canyons. No person with a tenth of one per cent of artistic sense will deny that they are to the flat uninteresting mesa land, as roses are to cabbage. But following out the simile, because the mesas are perhaps more useful for some purposes, is it any particular reason why they should be improved within an inch of their lives, while the canyons are placed in competition with the city dumps? As a matter of

fact we haven't any good reason for this any more than we have for biting our finger nails, or any other bad habit. Our last alibi is removed as fast as our cities establish free rubbish collecting services, as most of them have already done. This was a flimsy excuse at best, but now even this is gone. For those who must ever reason in dollars and cents, there is a practical, commercial aspect to the matter. That highly volatile quantity known as property values is extremely sensitive to such things as canyons and vacant lots embellished with this alleged goat food. Certainly the barometer of prices would record in a satisfying way the effect of a successful clean-up campaign. Forward the Antitincan League!

The point at which we have been rather circuitously arriving is that it is the plain duty of every individual to interest himself in this matter, and to stay interested until every bit of rubbish, metal, paper or whatever it may be has been picked up and interned where it belongs, and the piles of the same which now embellish too many of our otherwise beauty spots have become a matter of history only. The same applies to the sign-board, but, as the Walrus said, that is another story.

LAWN BY THE YARD—FOR THE YARD

An Englishman has conceived the idea of sowing a lawn on strips of canvas and selling it already to lay anywhere there is soil to receive it. The seed is sown quite generously on a thick piece of the material, comes up well, very much as it does on the "rag doll" seed germination testers advocated by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and when the "lawn" becomes well established, the canvas is lain directly on the soil in the final location, whereupon the roots push down through the canvas, which eventually disintegrates. We expect before long to see lawns sold in this way by all the department stores—possibly at the cotton goods counter along with the other fine lawn.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION LECTURE

Francis M. Fultz will be heard in San Diego in the second lecture of a series of four, under the auspices of the San Diego Floral Association on Monday evening, February 21st, at 8 o'clock, at the First Unitarian Church, Sixth and Beech streets.

The subject chosen is "Camping and Tramping in the High Sierras". In this lecture Mr. Fultz describes the wonderful flora of the Sierra Nevadas, as observed and photographed on trips with the Sierra Club. This talk will be illustrated with stereoptican slides in natural color.

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Simmondsia Californica

By Carroll De Wilton Scott

Simmondsia Californica is a low-and-slow-growing shrub of the Lower Sonoran or desert life zone. It grows most abundantly on the arid mountain slopes on the eastern boundary of San Diego County. It occurs also about San Diego where it prefers dry southern exposures. I have not seen it north of Del Mar. On the south slopes of Mission Valley it grows in immense thickets.

In his "Southern California. Trees and Shrubs" Abrams gives its "Type Locality" as "Covering the sides of barren hills in argillaceous soils near the sea in the vicinity of San Diego in Upper California. Under distribution, he says, "Vicinity of San Diego, southward through Lower California and eastward to Arizona, Lower Sonoran."

The requirements of this hardy plant are sunshine and a minimum of moisture. It is not found in the chaparral belt since it is a desert drought-resistant shrub. It occurs about San Diego not because it needs coolness or fog, but on account of our low rainfall and abundant sunshine. That it endures considerable cold is evidenced by its thriving in the desert mountains.

The foliage of *Simmondsia* is bluish green in some individuals and yellowish green in others, the latter color predominating especially in the cold season. In early spring the bushes are adorned with yellow catkin-like flowers. These are most conspicuous on the male plants, for the shrub is dioecious. In late August the pistillate plants are laden with brown nuts about the size of large peanuts, enclosed in a stiff brown husk which breaks open when perfectly ripe allowing the nuts to fall out. They are gathered assiduously by mice, squirrels and wood rats.

The *Simmondsia* has the distinction of being the only edible nut, other than the acorn, that grows on the western slope of San Diego County. In Lower California it goes by the name of "jajobe" or "goat nut". Wickson in "California Fruits," says: "Fire-dried seeds contain 48.30 per cent of fatty matter; the oil is suitable for food and of good quality and possesses the immense advantage of not turning rancid. In Lower California it is prepared by boiling water."

I have not tried boiling the nuts like almonds, but I am sure they would taste good if the skin were boiled off and the nut roasted and salted. The persistent skin on the nut contains a bitter principle that leaves a disagreeable taste and does not peel off when parched as in the case of peanuts. Hundreds of pounds of these nuts fall in September on

the south slopes of Mission Valley opposite the city.

The *Simmondsia* is one of our valuable native shrubs for cultivation. It is very slow-growing, but that is a virtue because you would never have to prune it. When once established nothing can kill it—certainly fire cannot—perhaps too much water might. I could easily believe it lives forever, as new sprouts seem to push up from the roots as the aged branches gradually die. I have two bushes at Pacific Beach, eight years old, which are about two feet in diameter. A well-drained slope is essential to its growth.

EASTER LILIES GROWN FROM SEEDS INSTEAD OF BULBS

The practicability of propagating Easter lilies from seed, rendering us practically independent of Japanese and Bermuda bulbs, has been demonstrated at the experimental farm of the United States Department of Agriculture, at Arlington, Va. Lily seeds have been brought to full flower within 15 months of the time of planting. The lily stalks produced at Arlington bore from 5 to 15 blossoms apiece, while from 4 to 5 has been considered a good average by florists using the imported bulbs.

The United States last year imported 10,000,000 lily bulbs from Japan at an expense of approximately \$2,000,000. In addition to the better results and saving of expense, lily plants propagated from seed at home are found to be almost free from diseases which infest the foreign bulbs. Contrary to general impression, it has been found that the lily is a perfectly hardy plant and bulbs do not need a warm climate for propagation. Bulbs planted November 1st, near Washington, 4 inches below the surface, are held dormant so that they are not injured by frosts, and begin development with the first warm weather. On the other hand, bulbs planted in a warmer climate commence to grow before cold weather and fail to winter successfully.

The department's work in lily cultivation is quite revolutionary. It has attracted wide attention from florists and requests for propagating material in the shape of seed and bulb-lets have been numerous. While the department cannot comply with these requests, every one interested in growing Easter lilies from seed can insure himself such seed by pollinating a few flowers of his Easter lilies this spring.

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FLORAL ASSOCIATION DECORATES FOR NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

When the San Diego Society of Natural History opened its new museum in Balboa Park, recently, the co-operation of the Floral Association was requested to the extent of arranging the floral decorations for the opening day. A very charming effect was attained, including, among other features, an ingenious combination of lifelike mounted specimens of deer in a naturalistic setting of eucalyptus, palms, acacias, ferns, etc. The accompanying cut is reproduced from a photograph by Prof. Kelsey. The plan of decoration was designed by and executed under the direction of F. L. Hieatt, assisted by a corps of volunteer workers from the Floral Association.

A CO-OPERATIVE ARRANGEMENT

The Garden Magazine (Doubleday, Page & Co., New York), a sort of namesake of the California Garden, will make a special rate of \$2.00 per year for subscriptions to that publication received from readers of the California Garden only—if you mention this magazine. The regular yearly rate is \$3.00, so that is a concrete example of advantages which accrue to you through being a reader of the California Garden. Subscriptions should be sent to the California Garden, Point Loma, whereupon they will be assembled and sent on to the eastern publication.

ECHOES OF THE STREETS

By F. H. Collier in the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

California would not have been content with the Garden of Eden if the Californians had been presented with that instead of an imitation of it. They would have set about tinkering with it at once. Luther Burbank has already changed a large part of the flora of that not altogether perfect land, and we see that another man has produced the "limequat". Its orthography reveals that it is a hybrid of the lime and the kumquat, an Indo-Chinese copartnership in which the "limose" qualities of one fruit are blended with the "quatty" characteristics of the other. Already the prune of the Pacific Coast has been rendered unrecognizable; and the loganberry made one of its mysteries. The orange has acquired an unbiblical birthmark. The melon has manifested itself in as many varieties as the apple. Nature in California is beginning to wear a physiognomy of astonishment. Even flowers can't be sure what their posterity will look like. If ever there is a blue rose it will come from the Ultima Thule of the Pacific.

The speculative stocks, like the long hand of a clock, tell the minutes, but the Liberty Bond list tells the hour.

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The Bugbear of Snapdragon Rust

By G. R. Gorton

There is a decided parallelism between the diseases of plants and those of human beings, in that certain diseases develop as the plant—or human being—leaves the wild or primitive state, and commences to respond to culture. History does not record neurasthenia among savage tribes—that is a disease of civilization. Likewise, we do not find the dreaded rust of snapdragons on the wild antirrhinum species. As new varieties are evolved and types improved—especially under glass—this destructive fungus has appeared.

In a bulletin of the Illinois Experiment Station, G. L. Peltier reports the results of more or less extensive experiments carried on by him in the life history and control—or attempted control of this pest. According to Dr. Peltier, California, as far as is known, has the doubtful distinction of being the first known habitat of the snapdragon rust—known scientifically as *Puccinia antirrhini*—as it was found in this state as long ago as 1879, and has since spread to all portions of the United States.

The experiments which have been conducted under Dr. Peltier, while they were governed more particularly by eastern conditions and cultural methods, are of almost equal value to growers of *Antirrhinums* in California.

Dr. Peltier's investigations cover a period of several years, and were carried on under both greenhouse and field conditions. The rust attacks all portions of the plant above ground, and may be carried by cuttings, but, although the seed pods may have the spores upon them, seed collected from infected plants will not carry infection to seedlings grown from that seed.

The life history of this fungus, while worked out carefully, as far as the pathologists have gone, is not fully known, but the conditions under which the rust develops and the results of attempts at artificial control have been quite fully determined and recorded.

All stages of the plant are attacked—from cuttings and seedlings on up to plants about to bloom, and all varieties of *Antirrhinum* seem to be equally susceptible. In the spraying experiments three different fungicides were used, to-wit: Bordeaux mixture, ammoniacal copper carbonate, and a proprietary preparation containing potassium sulfid. Rather oddly, lime-sulfur solution, the most widely employed fungicide in commercial use in California, was not used. The results from the different solutions,—applied weekly on some plots, and bi-weekly on others, were

exactly nil, as far as any appreciable diminution in infection was concerned. A more decided result was, however, obtained from applying irrigation water below instead of from overhead with the difference in favor of the former method.

A method of procedure which ought to yield fair results is suggested by Dr. Peltier's observations. In the case of a field plot where infected plants have been grown, it would seem better to substitute some other plants for a year or two, using a fresh plot and seedlings of one's own growing. And, of course, in the case of uninfected soil the purchasing of seed rather than plants would be indicated.

FLOWER SHOW DECORATIONS AND LABELINGS

While without doubt the main purpose of a flower show is to display flowers, yet it seems to us that it would be adding much to the popular value of the exhibits if a greater attempt were made to decorate the hall itself. Of course, this is done, and done very well, at the spring flower show in New York, and at some other exhibits, but as a rule the committee is contented to stop when it has provided tables or benches and holders for the flowers.

Now take the case of the *Gladiolus* show held in Boston. Without doubt many of the growers in New England would have been glad to contribute large numbers of "Glads" without regard to variety, for the mere adornment of the hall. The flowers might have been massed in the corners or better still displayed on raised platforms or on shelves, and other decorations might have been added to form a picture of great beauty. This sort of thing, while it might not appeal especially to expert flower growers and those who are familiar with different varieties, would certainly attract the men and women who love flowers simply as flowers, and are charmed by artistic effects, even though they may have no expert knowledge regarding the blooms displayed.

It also seems to us that at the popular shows there should be a more complete labeling of the flowers for the benefit of the uninitiated. With signs marking the different groupings, as, for example, the *Primulinus* hybrids, or large collections of named varieties, seedlings and the like, the amateur visitor would get a much more comprehensive

Continued on page 8

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

The February Gardens

THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

By Walter Birch.

Well, we had our fine rain, as is usually the case, in seasons when we are all guessing on the probability of a dry winter, so it is now up to us to make use of the opportunities provided by a kind providence and "plow and sow" so that later we can "reap and mow". Taking it for granted that you already have the garden patch well spaded and manured, we will first consider the seeds to be planted. February calls for a pretty long list of vegetables including cabbage, carrot, celery, cauliflower, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, onion seeds and sets, peas, radish, salsify, spinach, tomatoes and turnips. These can all be successfully planted now, and will come to maturity, varying in time from three weeks to three or four months, a number of them in from six weeks to two months. In most cases where the soil is well worked and has had full advantage of the rains, there will be enough moisture already in the ground to bring the seeds well up, so that regular sprinkling (not in the hot sun) or irrigating by furrow, probably once a week or possibly less, will keep the vegetables in a hearty state of growth, provided the ground is kept well stirred and a fine surface, to prevent too much exaporation. Remember that few things need to be wet. Air to keep the ground moist, particularly if it is of a clay nature, although at the start it must be wet several feet down, either by rain or irrigation, or your surface sprinkling will be altogether insufficient to give satisfactory results. Don't forget that all small seeds must be planted shallow, varying in most cases from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch.

There are a number of roots and plants that can now be planted to advantage, the Green Globe Artichoke is a delicious vegetable and quite ornamental in appearance, growing into a large clump in a few months. It is a perennial and should be planted about three feet apart each way. Be careful to get plants that produce buds free of prickles, otherwise your time and labor is lost.

Asparagus roots can also go in now, the Palmetto is the best variety, they need a rich soil and lots of well rotted manure. Crimson Winter Rhubarb is also in season and can be planted in deeply spaded well manured soil, setting roots in the ground up to the crown,

THE FLOWER GARDEN

By Mary Matthews.

If we wish it, with the good soaking rains we have just had, we can make this month a full planting one. Put in roses; at the same time send your name to the chairman of the rose section of the Floral Association, and get full benefit of his expert advice. The last of this month put in summer blooming bulbs. Of course you have been planting Gladiolus right along. Among the few I have, several are showing bloom stalks. These bulbs were planted in late October. Tigridias are showy things in the garden,—not good for house decoration as the flowers are not lasting, but succeed each other rapidly. Tuberose should be planted the last of the month; they need a warm sunny location, and lots of water as do most bulbs during their growing and blooming period. Among newer things is *Acidanthera bicolor*. This subject is very much like Gladiolus, but has fragrant flowers. It, heretofore, has been very high priced, but is now listed at a reasonable figure. Watch your Iris and Ranunculus and see that the soil is kept well watered and stirred around them. If by any chance you can secure a plant of *Clivia miniata*, this is the time to do it. They are handsome things, with foliage very like the Agapanthus, evergreen and have flowers of a reddish orange, shading to buff. They increase slowly, consequently are rather high in price. Some good plants were loaned to the Floral Association last year for our bulb show. My desire for new things in the bulb line is only curbed by my pocketbook. Cannas can be divided and replanted. They are gorgeous in large clumps and at the back of a broad border, and make a good dividing line between small lots. Start 'most anything you wish now, putting the more delicate ones in boxes. Quantities of Dahlia and Zinnia seed novelties are being listed in the new catalogs—some may not be all that is promised for them, but it will be interesting to try out a few of them. It looked at the Fall Flower Show as though a Zinnia Society would have to be formed, there were so many of them—all kinds and colors. It is wonderful the way Marigolds and Zinnias have come to the front.

In your planting be sure and include some-

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THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

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about three feet apart. Asparagus roots should be planted 8 or 10 inches deep in well manured soil setting plants from 18 inches to 2 feet apart in the row, rows three feet apart. During the first year the space between the rows can be used for other vegetables. Horse radish roots can also be planted in a shady place where there is plenty of moisture and deep rich soil.

Strawberry plants set out now will, with the right soil and good care produce berries in April, the Carolinas are one of the best everbearing strawberries on the market. Now is the ideal season of the year to get your lawn in good trim. Go over it with a heavy rake and get rid of anything in the way of small rubbish and all the devil grass possible, then get your lawn mower and give it a close cutting, going over it four different directions. Then apply a good top dressing of commercial fertilizer, wetting it down enough with the sprinkler to work it into the roots. You will be surprised to find that in about ten days you will have a velvety green lawn. If the sod is old and run down, in addition to the foregoing sow one pound of white clover to one thousand square feet of lawn, it will help matters wonderfully.

If you are planting out any deciduous fruit trees, do not loiter. January and February are the two best planting months. Don't be afraid to cut them well back when you get them from the nursery, 3 to 4 feet high is about right. Whips are never satisfactory, and your future tree is spoilt before you get started, as the first, second and third years are the important ones in shaping your future tree.

A CORRECTION

In naming the committeemen in charge of the El Monte Oaks project, in the last number of the Garden, the name of Mr. F. L. Hieatt was inadvertently omitted. This is the more regrettable inasmuch as Mr. Hieatt has been actively associated, not only with this matter from its inception, but also with that of the street tree planting in San Diego. The name of Mr. Templeton Johnson suffered the same fate, and to both these gentlemen a sincere apology is tendered. It seems anyway, lately, as if we spent our spare moments—if there is any such animal—explaining away or correcting some boner of the over-busy editor. We can only hope for the best in the future.

G. R. G.

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THE FLOWER GARDEN

Continued from page 5

thing for "fillers", as they are called. Mignonette is charming with the yellow Narcissus. Ageratum, and the similar Eupatorium in blue or white are good,—also the Thalictrum or "Meadow Rue". The newer *Artimisia lactiflora* I have tried over and over, but the snails or cutworms were always ahead of me. One of our florists had in a window last season a mass of feathery green with minute white flowers. This upon closer examination proved to be Coriander.

Many shrubs can be planted this month; all sweet herbs put in, if you wish fragrance as well as greenery in your garden. I read somewhere the other day that Buddleias for Fall blooming should be started from cuttings now. After they start growth they need rich soil, sun, and plenty of water. Start Chrysanthemums now by separating the old clumps and taking the new strong shoots, throwing away the old wood. 'Mums have come to their own again. We have a Chrysanthemum expert in our midst, who, I hope, will some day give us a talk on the subject.

The
**FLOWER
SHOP**



Cut Flowers
Floral Designs

*Miss Rainford**1115 Fourth St.*

THE JANUARY MEETING

The January meeting was held at the residence of Miss Alice Lee. The attendance was excellent, considering the rainy weather. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

President Gorton announced that Theodore Payne would give an illustrated talk at the next meeting on the "Cultivation of California Wild Flowers". He also urged all lovers of roses to join the Rose Club section of which Mr. Hieatt is chairman.

Mr. Hieatt spoke on the desirability of the Floral Association assisting with suggestions on the decoration of San Diego churches, especially at Easter, in order that beautiful Easter decorations be made a feature of San Diego churches. Whereupon the following resolution was adopted: "Resolved that the Floral Association appoint a permanent committee, whose function shall be to get in touch with the Ministerial Association and offer suggestions to decoration committees of the several churches on the artistic decorating of churches for Easter."

Mr. Scott, of the Natural History Museum, spoke on the project of making Mission Bay a sea park and sanctuary for water birds. A resolution was then adopted favoring the prohibition of hunting on Mission Bay and urging the co-operation of the Fish and Game Commission in carrying out the purposes of the resolution.

The matter of dumping rubbish in city canyons was brought up by Mr. App. He urged the necessity of presenting the subject to the Council with enough strength and backing to secure action. The Chamber of Commerce, Civic Association and Floral Association will act together on the petition. Mr. App presented a resolution which was adopted, the substance of which was that the proper city department be requested to make a survey of all city lots and canyons on which rubbish is being dumped contrary to existing laws and that the proper authorities take such action as may be necessary to prevent any further violations of such laws or to make other laws that shall be more effective.

Mrs. Eloise Roorbach brought a greeting from the "Garden Magazine". Mr. Barron, the editor intends to make the December number of each year a California issue and invites California Gardeners to contribute to his magazine. As a token of interest in our western "Garden" the eastern "Garden" will give a subscription to members of the Floral Association for \$2 a year instead of \$3. Mrs. Roorbach hoped that through the mutual help of the two garden magazines the horticultural

interests of the east and west would be drawn closer together.

Mr. Gorton then introduced the subject of the evening—"Shrubs, Native, Fragrant and Low Growing". The following points were made:

By Mr. Gorton: For the busy flower lover it is possible to secure more blossom returns from shrubs with a minimum attention. Low-growing shrubs should be used more frequently, especially in the park at corners.

By Mr. Scott: Native shrubs like Lemonade, Berry, Toyon, Holly-leaved Cherry, Simmondsia, Elderberry and Matilija Poppy should be used in parks and avenue planting because they need a minimum of care and water.

By Miss Sessions: Low-growing shrubs should be more widely planted in small plots. Some of the best are *Raphiolepis ovata* because it has fewer faults and more virtues than any other; *Creeping Cotoneaster* (*C. microphylla*), *Coxtoneaster horizontalis*, and *Diosma*.

By Miss Lee: The Association should furnish information to tourists about the wild floral displays of our back country, perhaps a monthly directory during spring to such centers as the Chamber of Commerce, Auto Club of Southern California, etc.

Adjourned.

CARROLL De WILTON SCOTT,
Secretary.

A PRAYER

Teach me, Father, how to go
Softly as the grasses grow;
Hush my soul to meet the shock
Of the wild world as a rock;
But my spirit, propt with power,
Make as simple as a flower.
Let the dry heart fill its cup
Like a poppy looking up;
Let life lightly wear her crown
Like a poppy looking down,
When its heart is filled with dew,
And its life begins anew.

Teach me, Father, how to be
Kind and patient as a tree.
Joyfully the crickets croon
Under the shady oak at noon;
Beetle, on his mission bent,
Tarries in that cooling tent.
Let me also cheer a spot,
Hidden field or garden grot—
Place where passing souls can rest
On the way and be their best.

—Edwin Markham.

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Little Journeys To Our Neighbors' Gardens

By Special Garden Reporters.

Rambling through a very small section of town, just within a few blocks of each other many interesting and beautiful things were seen. In the garden of Mrs. Ernest White, Redwood and Second streets, our attention was first attracted by a fine specimen of *Strelitzia regina*,—Bird of Paradise—which has made a very unusual growth for this very tropical plant. One branching stalk, which is rather unusual, showing fine blooms; numerous other flower stalks are pushing up, giving promises for later on. This plant is growing in the open under trees and has an eastern exposure. Primulas, cinerarias and schizanthus were planted in the borders, and just near the entrance is growing probably one of the largest *Leptospermums* in town. At the first glance one thinks surely it must be a fine oak removed from its southern home.

Then just a block away one comes to the home of Miss Coulter, where against the wall are to be seen two large specimens of Heather (South African) in full bloom. Through the openings in the garden wall one catches glimpses of many a flower and shrub.

Any one visiting this portion of San Diego must not fail to see the plaster houses built by Miss Lee. With their Italian architecture, the formal planting of cypress, and the shrubbery on the canyon sides they are most attractive and might well be copied in similar locations. From here we journeyed to the junction of Albatross and Walnut streets, to the old DeFoe property, now the home of Dr. E. Newell Case. As one comes up to it, he involuntarily exclaims, "A Bit of Old San Diego."

A nearer view shows a front yard filled with rare cacti and other succulents; Euphorbias, Aloes, Sedums, Echeverias,—in fact, all the classes of succulents in the choicest kinds are there. Then, too, the yard contains large fruiting trees of the genus *Annona*—Custard Apple, Sour Saps, etc. We are not up on these botanically, but the samples given us were delicious. Various kinds of guavas, figs, and plums give a feast of fruit the year 'round, the owners say, and then, not by any means the least of all was the cordial welcome given the Garden reporters.

Another interesting planting and a good example of what can be done with a narrow lot extending down to a canyon, is the home of Mrs. M. A. Greer, adjoining the Brandegee home,—one of San Diego's, and in fact, California's landmarks in the horticultural world. Here all available planting spots have been used; bulbs and herbaceous plants are tucked in everywhere. In front is a fine redwood

brought from the north as a sapling six years ago. It is now ten feet or more in height, with spreading branches, and each season furnishes Christmas greens. At the northwest, on the slope, is a fine specimen of our native *Matilija* poppy, *Romneya coulteri*, sending up luxuriant growth and always in bloom to furnish decoration at the time of our annual meeting.

Probably the finest and least known specimen in this yard is the *Parkinsonia aculeata*,—locally "Palo Verde". From a mere switch it has grown into a large tree, and from it, according to the statement of the owner, may be cut "wagonloads" of branches with their dainty orchid-like blooms.

Anyone paying a visit to this portion of the city cannot fail to find much of interest and of educational value. More anon.

M. G. & M. M.

FLOWER SHOW DECORATIONS

Continued from page 4

knowledge of the whole exhibit. Many people go to these shows for the express purpose of choosing blooms which they would like growing in their gardens, and sometimes they are handicapped because of the incomplete labeling.—Horticulture.

(The question of decoration at flower shows is something which must be left to the individual fancy of the management. Too much in this direction is likely to detract from the general effect of the show as drawing attention away from the central idea of the particular flower which is being shown.

We agree with Horticulture that the labeling of flowers is improperly attended to. Not only are the labels usually small, but sometimes illegible, even to those who know varieties, and to the public they mean nothing. Labels should consist of cards, either printed or plainly written with large letters, so that "he who runs may read." Whether it is the duty of each separate exhibitor to attend to this or not is a question. It would seem more properly to be for the exhibition committee or those in charge of the show. As an educational proposition flower shows are often a failure for the reason stated. While the casual visitor may get a general idea of the show he does not carry away with him lasting impressions as he would if groups of flowers were designated and varieties clearly labeled with names. We commend what Horticulture has to say on this subject to the attention of those in charge of flower shows.)

THE EDITOR.

Madison Cooper in The Flower Grower.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

HARDY FERNS

By Constance D. Bower.

These are the ferns which are primarily for garden or lath house culture and not for growing in pots. They may be planted either in the fall or spring, but they desire to be left undisturbed during the winter season. The foliage of most of them dies down, but there are various ones which remain evergreen. Both sorts should be planted in order to thoroughly enjoy the hardy ferns.

A Massachusetts firm which deals almost exclusively in hardy ferns and plants, is a regular treasure house, when it comes to making up a collection of these plants. The perusal of this catalogue on an early spring day, especially after a rain, is liable to bring on an acute attack of "fernitis".

The writer has grown a number of the eastern hardy ferns with good success. California and the northwest states have very beautiful wild ferns which grow nicely in one's garden—if they are not petted too much.

A very few varieties thrive in the open sun, so a damp, shady location is to be preferred. Again, in planting hardy ferns as well as the more tender sorts, care must be given not to crowd out the delicate ones with the rank growers. The proper soil is a mixture of fair garden soil, plenty of leaf mould and a small amount of well rotted manure. As good drainage is very essential, slightly raised beds are best. Varieties producing "crowns" should have these "crowns" exposed and not covered with earth. Those growing from root stocks should not be planted over an inch deep.

The following kinds go to make up a nice collection:

Adiantum pedatum
Aspidium Felix-mas
Aspidium Goldianum
Aspidium marginale
Aspidium munitum
Aspidium Noveboracense
Asplenium augustifolium
Asplenium Felix-foemina
Asplenium Trichomanes
Asplenium viride
Camptosorus rhizophyllus
Cryptogramma acrostichoides
Dicksonia punctilobula
Lygodium palmatum
Onoclea sensibilis
Osmunda Claytoniana
Woodwardia Augustifolia.

A PROGRESSIVE DISTRICT

The Burlingame Club of San Diego has appropriated \$600.00 for tree planting along the streets of the district of that name. The trees selected are Cocos plumosa and Acacia

melanoxylon. The work is to be commenced at once.

It is of mutual advantage to mention the California Garden when responding to advertisements therein.

The California Garden will appreciate it, its advertisers will appreciate it, if you mention this magazine, and you will thank the Garden for directing you to the reputable firms represented on its pages.

THE SHADY WAY

There's a shady way on a sunny day,

And I love to linger in it.

Where great trees meet above the street,

And soft cool breezes glean it.

Where pepper trees and walnut trees

And tall straight palm trees grow,

And those who seek a safe retreat

From the sun at noonday go.

God bless the hand that planted trees

Along this shady way!

His work shall live and service give

Through many a sultry day,

And may we learn, each in our turn,

To do the kindly deed.

That sweetens life and lessens strife

And fills a human need.

—W. W. Ayers in The San Diego Union.

Couldn't Be Better

TOAST made on an Electric Toaster right at the table as you want it has a warm deliciousness and crispy goodness that will be a new sensation to your palate Besides, making toast on an Electric Toaster is much quicker, cleaner and easier than any other method.

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9,000 MILES THROUGH AFRICA IN SEARCH FOR NEW PLANTS. (*Continued*)

Hears of Railway Wrecks.

Dr. Shantz spent 10 days there and a month at Kafue a little farther north in Northern Rhodesia, where a delay was caused by the sickness of two members of the party. At this point word was received of a railway wreck on the Congo Railway, in which two members of the original party were killed and two injured and forced to return to America. This news, coupled with the sickness in camp, was the darkest part of the trip and threatened at one time to terminate the expedition, so far as Central Africa was concerned.

Mr. Raven, of the Smithsonian Institution, and Dr. Shantz decided to keep on through the Congo. Here for the first time the party encountered a lack of adequate provision for traveling. From there on practically no hotels and no provision for food for travelers were found, although in some cases the captains on the ships on the Congo were kind enough to allow the travelers to mess with them, and at certain points grass huts had been provided as temporary quarters for travelers.

This section was particularly interesting to the agricultural explorer because of the immense number of wild sorghum grasses which were found all along the line, as well as interesting vegetable and food plants used by the natives as well as their rather unique methods of agriculture.

The two men proceeded down as far as Kindu, which is situated about midway between the Atlantic and the Indian Oceans and about three degrees south of the Equator.

From here they proceeded to Lake Tanganyika by way of Albertsville. This was interesting country because here was located Ujiji, where Stanley found Livingstone, and a few miles north, Kigoma, the terminus of the railway line leading from the Indian Ocean at Dares-Salam. Here were found the finest mangoes yet encountered, fruits of unusual size and flavor, as well as many interesting types of beans, castorbeans, cassava (tapioca), and many wild grasses which may prove to be of forage value in the northern parts of the United States.

A visit to the new Belgian territory of Irundi offered opportunity to study probably the finest grazing land in all Africa, a region which supports millions of natives, who rely almost entirely upon cattle which graze upon the natural grasses of this great upland country.

At Tabora, farther east, known as the home of the mango, wonderful trees and fruits were found. At Dares-es-Salam the cocoanut palm is one of the most important crops and has been planted on the sandy lands which extend for many miles back from the coast.

In Zanzibar, principally noted for the production of cloves and for the expensive groves of cocoanut palm and many tropical and subtropical plants, Dr. Shantz obtained and sent home seeds and plants of a number of important fruits and also many of the staple grains and legumes grown in various parts of the East Coast of Africa and sold on the Zanzibar market.

Returning to the mainland at Tanga, Dr. Shantz proceeded across German East Africa to near Kilimanjaro, one of the most wonderful mountains in the world, and the base of which is a very rich agricultural country. Here are great plantations of sisal, rubber, and coffee, and many important forage grasses.

Sees Large Wild Herds

From here the party passed through Voy and from Voy to Nairobi, the seat of the agricultural department for East Africa, and here much help was secured from the local authorities. An extensive trip was also made into the desert country north and east of Mount Kenia, and the principal varieties of tropical crops grown by the natives in this section were secured. Dr. Shantz also secured here a notable nut plant called telfairia, which forms a large gourd 2 or 3 feet long containing a large number of seeds of a delicious nutty flavor, about 1 inch in diameter and one-quarter of an inch through, which taste something like our butternut. Although this plant has not yet been tried in this country, it seems probable that it can be grown here, at least in the Philippines and possibly in Hawaii and Porto Rico.

The trip west to Lake Victoria across Uganda and down to the Sudan was through a region comparatively little known by our department, but in which many of our crop plants are grown, and which undoubtedly can supply many native plants of importance in the future development of our agriculture.

The trip down the Nile from the very headwaters at Ripon Falls was most interesting because of the immense development of native grasses and grain sorghums which almost everywhere line the banks of the

Continued on page 12

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' PAGE

Edited by Carroll De Wilton Scott, Natural History Museum

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW

Tell others about your garden, whether at home or school. Your success will help us and if you are in trouble we can help you. The three best letters of about 100 words will be printed every month. Address Editor Boys' and Girls' Page, California Garden.

THE LINCOLN SCHOOL GARDEN

Having received no letters this month I will have to fill up this column myself. I will tell you about a visit to the Lincoln School Garden.

I wish all young gardeners could see the excellent garden which the children of the Lincoln School have made under the supervision of Miss Catherine Wood. On the morning I was there in mid-January, there were about twenty boys and girls in the garden. Some were spading up new ground for planting, others were transplanting young lettuce and cabbage seedlings and still other were making ditches for irrigating. These boys and girls were not only learning how to produce food but were getting invaluable training in co-operation. They were learning to be good citizens.

That this school garden was ideally planned is evident from its appearance. A good gardener (especially in California) should be planting and harvesting the entire year. So I was glad to see peas hanging on the vines and young onions large enough to flavor soup and cauliflower plants ready to bud, and thriving rows of carrots, beets and spinach. At the same time there were beds of young lettuce and onions ready to transplant and plots being spaded up ready to receive them. That is my idea of a well-planned garden. Since we have to eat every week we ought to be planting and gathering vegetables every week.

Very interesting to me was the lath house. I saw dozens of flats of flower and tree seedlings—pansies and cosmos, sugar gums and peppers—and all kinds of cuttings being rooted. Everything seemed in first-class condition and in order. It was a pleasure to see this lath house. It looked as though the workers in it were getting pleasure and knowledge and health all at the same time. I wonder if these children of San Diego appreciate being able to learn outdoors at a time of year when eastern children are either shivering or being roasted while they study indoors.

I was also glad to see some seedling peach trees for budding this spring, and a long bed of wild uowers just coming up. There were some bits of lingering summer bloom along

the fence and a fine cluster of sea dahlias in blossom. The sea dahlia is one of the prize wild flowers of California and one of the most valuable for cultivation.

Now I am sure there are other model school gardens in San Diego that I have not seen. But this is to say that there is certainly one in front of the Lincoln School. And I am sure there are lots of home gardens that have interesting stories hidden among the rows of potatoes or the beds of nasturtiums. Who will tell us some of these stories for March.

HINTS FOR NATURE LOVERS

Who Knows?

- (1) How a bat sleeps.
- (2) The difference between nectar and honey.
- (3) Why a dog turns round before he lies down.

Answers to January Questions:

- (1) The gopher helped make our garden soil by working it over, mixing into it vegetation which decayed to make humus.
- (2) If we kill off the large hawks the country will be overrun with mice and ground squirrels that eat up our farm crops.
- (3) The big cyclonic storms that bring nine-tenths of our rain have not come far enough south this winter.

MY FIRST GARDEN

I have made many gardens, some little, some large, some for fun, others to raise food to eat or to sell by the truck load to commission men. But I shall never forget my very first garden. Perhaps you would like to hear about it.

When I was seven years old I went to a County Fair at Escondido, for I lived not far from that town. This was before Escondido became famous for its Grape Days. A man at one of the booths became interested in me and gave me an ear of popcorn as a parting gift. No doubt he meant for me to eat it in the form of buttered popcorn. But I told my father I wanted to plant it, so he put it away.

Next April, when everybody began to plant, I remembered my ear of popcorn. My father gave me a little plot of garden and I filled it with rows of popcorn. By the time I had used up my garden space I had the gardening fever very badly. So my mother gave me some sunflower seeds to plant for her hens.

Nobody, I suppose, expected my garden would amount to anything. But I hoed and pulled weeds and the ground was rich and I had probably inherited some gardening instinct from my grandfather, who was a big

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

The California Garden

G. R. Gorton, Editor
Office, 945 Seventh St., San Diego, Cal.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

The San Diego Floral Association

Main Office, Point Loma, California

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Entered as second-class matter December 8, 1910, at the Post office at Point Loma, California, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

California Garden is on the list of publications authorized by the San Diego Retail Merchants Association.

Subscription, \$1.00 per year

ADVERTISING RATES

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9000 MILES THROUGH AFRICA ETC.

Continued from page 10

Nile. Seeds of these plants were secured at many different stations. The agriculture, methods of irrigation and cultivation, especially in the upper and lower Sudan, were of especial interest to an American agriculturist.

The African expedition ended at Port Sudan September 2, 1920. Dr. Shantz brought with him about 300 photographs in addition to the many plant specimens sent or brought back.

The living plant material is now growing in the various plant introduction gardens of the department preparatory to being distributed later to experiment stations and special experimenters in different parts of the country.

MY FIRST GARDEN

Continued from page 11

plantation owner in the south in his day—at any rate my popcorn and sunflowers seemed trying to outgrow each other every day. I have forgotten most of the details now except that when the popcorn was ripe it was so perfect that my father sent some large stalks to the San Diego Chamber of Commerce.

Although I never eat popcorn I still plant some every year at Pacific Beach, just to see it grow—perhaps also because I formed the popcorn habit at such an early age.

Floral Association Meetings

February 15, 1921—8 p. m.

Place of Meeting—Bledsoe Furniture Company.

Subject—"Conservation of California Wild Flowers and Shrubs." Illustrated with stereopticon.

Speaker—Mr. Theodore Payne of Los Angeles.

March 1—2:30 p. m.

Place of Meeting—Botanical Building and Japanese Garden in Balboa Park.

Speaker or Guide—Mr. John Morley.

March 15, 1921—8 p. m.

Place of Meeting—Mr. Hugo Klauber's Residence 2626 Park avenue.

Subject—"Gladiolus", "Iris".

April 5, 1921—2:30 p. m.

Place of Meeting—Mr. Julius Wangenheim's Garden, 148 Juniper street. Spring Bulb Show.

April 19, 1921—8 p. m.

Place of Meeting—Mr. F. L. Hieatt's Residence, 1825 Sheridan drive.

Subject—"Roses."

May 3, 1921—2:30 p. m.

Place of Meeting—Mr. Percy Whitehead's and neighboring gardens, 4474 Hortensia street.

May 17, 1921—8 p. m.

Place of Meeting—Mr. A. H. Sweet's Residence 435 West Spruce street.

Subject—"Planting for Shady Places", "Fuchsias".

June 7, 1921—2.30 p. m.

Place of Meeting—Miss Ellen Scripp's Residence in La Jolla.

June 21, 1921, 8 p. m. ANNUAL MEETING.

Place of Meeting—Southern California Music Co., 630 C street.

July 5, 1921—2:30 p. m.

Place of Meeting—Mrs. C. W. Darling's Garden, Chula Vista.

July 19, 1921—8 p. m.

Place of Meeting—Mr. W. L. Frevert's Lathhouse, 3535 First street.

Subject—"Lathhouses."

August 2, 1921—2:30 p. m.

Place of Meeting—Mr. Alfred Robinson's Lathhouse, Point Loma.

August 16, 1921—8 p. m.

Place of Meeting, Mr. George Becker's Residence, 2434 A street.

Subject—"Ferns."

FARM WANTED—Wanted to hear from owner of farm or good land worth the price asked. L. Jones, Box 551, Olney, Ill.

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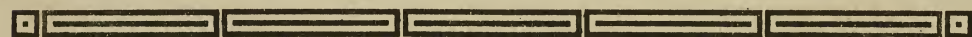
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University Extension Lectures

The San Diego Floral Association has arranged for four lectures by Francis M. Fultz, to be given in the First Unitarian Church. The dates and subjects are as follows:

JANUARY 17th—SAN DIEGO WILD FLOWERS.

FEBRUARY 21st—CAMPING AND TRAMPING IN
THE HIGH SIERRAS.

MARCH 21st—DESERT TRAILS.

APRIL 18th—THE ELFIN FOREST.

All of the lectures will be illustrated with beautifully colored slides. No admission will be charged, but a silver offering will be taken to cover the expenses. This is the first time Mr. Fultz has lectured on these subjects in San Diego, and many of his slides are being shown for the first time this year.